



September 8, 2020

Attn: Kim Campbell, Chief Clerk  
North Carolina Utilities Commission  
4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4325

Re: Docket E-2 Sub 1257: Proposed 5 MW Solar Facility in Buncombe County

Dear Ms. Campbell,

As an environmental advocacy non-profit that champions renewable energy solutions in Western North Carolina, MountainTrue enthusiastically supports Duke Energy's proposal to build the Woodfin Solar Facility at the site of a former landfill. This innovative project is in direct service of Buncombe County's resolution to use 100% renewable energy by 2030, as well as Governor Cooper's Executive Order 80 to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions at least 40% below 2005 levels by 2025.

As an organization with decades of land use planning experience, we also applaud the project's initiative to use low-value land for renewable energy. Given the mountainous terrain and high cost of land in Buncombe County, it is critical to incorporate creative land use solutions in our transition to renewable energy. Building this project on a former landfill adds more solar to the grid while preserving other land for tree canopy, affordable housing and other high-demand needs for Western North Carolina's communities and climate.

We hope that this will be one of many such initiatives for solar energy projects as our region moves away from fossil fuels and toward a renewable energy future.

Sincerely,

Julie Mayfield  
Co-Director

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